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PATENT CM OF ON

ECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800

Group Art Unit: 2882

Examiner: C.C. Kao

Docket No.:

FSU-001

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

Susan D. ALLEN

Serial No.: 09/704,733

Confirm. No.: 7240

Filed:

November 3, 2000

For:

OPTICAL FIBERS OR OTHER WAVEGUIDES HAVING A PLURALITY

OF TAP STRUCTURES FOR FORMING ILLUMINATION PATTERNS

AND METHOD OF MAKING THE SAME

REPLY TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D. C. 20231

Sir:

In reply to the Office Action of August 22, 2002 wherein restriction has been required, Applicant hereby elects Group I (claims 1-29), with traverse, for prosecution in the above-identified application.

It is respectfully submitted that the subject matter of each of the designated inventions is sufficiently related that a thorough search for the subject matter of each of the designated inventions would encompass a search for the subject matter of the remaining designated inventions. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the search and examination of the entire application could be made without serious burden. See MPEP §803 in which it states that "if the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the Examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to distinct o

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independent inventions." It is respectfully submitted that this policy should apply in the present application in order to avoid unnecessary delay and expense to Applicant and duplicative examination by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office.

Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 16-0607 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

rk L. Fleshner

Registration No. 34,596

Carol L. Druzbick

Registration No. 40,287

P.O. Box 221200 Chantilly, VA 20153-1200 (703) 502-9440 MLF:CLD/kam

Date: September 20, 2002